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WG III M-7

July 16, 1957

EDAC Working Group III, Economic Defense Policy & Planning

MINUTES

2:30 p.m. Friday, July 5, 1957  
Room 4101, SA-20

Attendance:

State

Mr. Wright, Chairman  
Mr. Oliver  
Mr. Sanderhoff  
Mr. Tuckerman

Defense

Mr. Van Sant

Agriculture

Mr. Stugard

ICA/MDAC

Mr. Hale

Treasury

Mr. Pollak

ICA

Mr. Slaght

Commerce

Mr. Rennert

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Agenda:

1. Closer Association with NATO and other Security Alliances.  
(WG III D-5, 6/25/57; CFEP 501/info)

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### Decision

The Chairman's suggestion was agreed that Mr. Van Sant of the Department of Defense and Mr. Sanderhoff of the Office of Regional Affairs of the State Department should inquire into the feasibility of a closer association of the Consultative Group organization with NATO for strategic trade control purposes and prepare a memorandum for the Committee's consideration at their earliest convenience.

### Discussion

The Department of Defense member submitted a draft memorandum, subject: "NATO and the CG" which was discussed. While certain possible advantages of such an association were recognized, many members expressed their doubt as to the competence of the Secretariat of the North Atlantic Council to contribute from its own resources to the question of the relationship between the Sino-Soviet bloc's military/logistic requirements and the bloc's ability to meet these requirements. It was questioned whether the close association was feasible in view of Japan's not being a member of NATO, and whether a NATO review of proposed COCOM criteria would give greater weight in COCOM to strategic as compared with commercial considerations.

The Chairman suggested that there were three types of closer association possible pursuant to paragraph 16 of NSC 5704/2. One was a formal organizational tie-in between CG and NATO. The second was the use of NATO as a means of obtaining useful guidance from a security standpoint on economic defense questions. The third was the use of the NAC in special cases as a forum in which to seek endorsement of important U. S. proposals being made in CG. The Chairman said he gathered that the sense of the meeting was pessimistic as to the feasibility and usefulness of the first type of relationship. This would seem to leave the second and third as the principal area for exploration.

(Since this meeting Department Telegram TOPOL 90 of July 10, 1957 has been sent to Paris and repeated to Tokyo in order to solicit field comments as an aid to the study in preparation.)

The Chairman urged that the Committee be provided with the requested draft memorandum at the earliest opportunity.

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